

What is claimed is:

1. An image forming apparatus comprising:

(a) a pair of plates spaced apart from each other to provide a gap therebetween which constitute a frame of the apparatus and form a flow path for cooling air between the gap; and

(b) a unit constituting the apparatus to be cooled by the cooling air flowing the flow path.

2. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the unit is an imagewise exposure device comprising a polygon housing having heat radiating fins which are exposed to the flow path, for housing a polygon motor.

3. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein each of the pair of plates has a plurality of holes and a part of the plurality of holes is selected by a selection member to form the flow path for the cooling air.

4. The image forming apparatus of claim 3, further comprising a unit constituting the apparatus to be cooled, wherein an air introducing side and an air exhausting side of

the unit are arranged to face one of the plurality of holes of the respective plates, and the hole is selected, thereby forming the flow path of the cooling air.

5. The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the unit is at least one of an exposure device, a developing unit, a sheet conveyance device such as a sheet re-feeding device for two-sided image forming, a cleaning unit, a fixing unit, an uncurler, and a toner replenishing unit.

6. A method of producing a plurality types of image forming apparatus, comprising:

(a) incorporating at least one plate in common on the plurality types of image forming apparatus;

(b) making a plurality of holes on at least the one plate;

(c) selecting a part of the plurality of holes for each type of the apparatus to form a flow path for cooling air.